

**Parish Staff
Pastor**

Father Stephen Karani
fr.stephen.karani@dor.org

Parochial Vicar

Father Michael Brown
fr.michael.brown@dor.org

Deacon John Tomandl

john.tomandl@dor.org

**Parish & Finance Office
Mailing Address**

90 Melrose Rd.
Auburn, NY 13021
Parish Office 315-252-7271
Finance Office 315-252-7111

Nancy Kavanagh

Administrative Assistant
nancy.kavanagh@dor.org
Monday-Thursday
8:00am-4:30pm
Friday
8:00am-11:00am

Shawn Gillen-Caryl

Regional Finance Director
shawn.gillen-caryl@dor.org

Ana Haff

Director of Faith Formation
ana.haff@dor.org

Tom Techman

Funeral Ministry
thomas.techman@dor.org

Richard White

Parish Ministries
Coordinator
richard.white@dor.org

Reconciliation

Sacred Heart:
Saturday 3:00pm
St. Alphonsus:
Saturday 3:30pm

Sacraments

*Baptism, Marriage,
Ministry of the Sick:*
Please Call Parish Office

Holy Family Church

85 North St.

Sacred Heart Church

90 Melrose Rd

St. Alphonsus Church

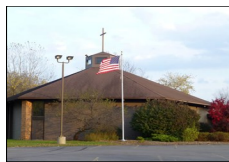
85 E. Genesee St.

St. Ann Church

4890 Twelve Corners Rd.

**The Catholic Community of
Holy Family * Sacred Heart * St. Alphonsus * St. Ann**

www.sacredheartauburn.org facebook.com/sacredheartauburn



**PRACTICING CATHOLIC
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

January 4, 2026

Mini reflection: Of all the stars you could follow, which one does the voice — that one deep within you — tell you to chase? Point to it. And go forth.

The Stars We Follow-Everyone follows a star.

It is human nature to seek. If we are rich, we want to be richer. If we are smart, we want to be smarter. If we are powerful, we want to be more powerful.

We cannot stay in one place, so to speak — to say, “I am what I am, I have what I have, and it is enough.” Even the very act of maintaining a status quo, be it health or wealth or spiritual goodness, requires action. It requires effort. It requires movement. This is human nature. There is nothing wrong with it. When we stop seeking, we die.

But what are we looking for? Where are we going?

I often wonder if the Magi knew what they were seeking — really, truly knew. They were seeking “the newborn king of the Jews,” yes, but did they understand who he was? *What* he was? I don’t see how they could have. They were wise men, but they were not prophets. They simply knew this was an endeavor they had to undertake. They knew it in their souls.

There really is very little that we know for certain about the Magi. We don’t know how many of them there were. We don’t know their religion. We don’t know where they came from. All we know for certain is that they listened to a voice they heard deep within themselves. And, heeding that voice, they went forth.

And what did they find? They found what we all seek, even if, foolishly, we seek it in riches or power.

They found the face of the Child.

So tell me this. Of all the stars you could follow, which one does the voice — that one deep within you— tell you to chase?

Point to it. And go forth.

©LPi

Calendar of Events Week of January 5, 2026

Sunday, January 4, 2026

Monday, Sunday, January 5, 2026

6:00pm(SH) Parish Life Meeting

Tuesday, Sunday, January 6, 2026

6:00pm(SH) Men's Club Meeting

Wednesday, Sunday, January 7, 2026

Thursday, January 8, 2026

Friday, January 9, 2026

8:00am-8:00pm(SA) Adoration

Saturday, January 10, 2026

10:00am(SH) Memorial Mass for Barbara Quinn

Sunday, January 11, 2026

10:00am(SH) Faith Formation

3:00pm(SH) Year 1 Confirmation

5:00pm(SH) Year 2 Confirmation

The "**Pack the Pantry**" item for the week of
January 3/4-**Bags of Flour or Sugar**
January 10/11-**Boxes of Granola or Cereal Bars**

Please bring these items to church and place them in
our "**Pack the Pantry**" baskets or they can be
brought to the:

**ST. ALPHONSUS FOOD PANTRY
(PHYSICAL LOCATION)
1579 CLARK ST. RD. FINGERLAKES MALL**

Monday-Saturday
9:00 am-11:30 am
315-252-0710

**PLEASE NOTE: Soup, Pasta Sauce, Coffee, Tea,
Juice, Dish Soap, Laundry Soap, Tissues and
Hand Soap are always needed and appreciated**

**All Correspondence should be addressed to:
St. Alphonsus Food Pantry
90 Melrose Rd.
Auburn, NY 13021**

Thank you for your continued generosity!

Thank you to all our volunteers at
Sacred Heart, St. Alphonsus and St. Ann's
who helped decorate our churches for
Christmas. We appreciate all of your hard
work making our churches shine during the
holiday season. All of our churches looked
wonderful and we can't thank all our
volunteers enough for all their help this
Christmas season. May the new year bring
you joy, happiness and many blessings!

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP FOR 12/21/25

Sacred Heart Church

Regular Collection \$6758.00

St. Alphonsus Church

Regular Collection \$4177.00

St. Ann's Church

Regular Collection \$999.00

Due to the early submission date for the bulletin, the
information for December 28th will be in next week's
bulletin.

Thank you for your continued generosity!



**OFFERING
COUNTERS**

Offering Counters are needed for
Sacred Heart. The teams count
Monday morning at 9:00am at the
Regional Finance Office at Sacred
Heart Church on Melrose Road. If
you have one Monday a month to
volunteer, we would love to have you
join our team. If you can help, please
call Shawn Gillen-Caryl at 315-252-7111. We would
also like to remind everyone to please use your
Sunday envelopes with your weekly offering.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

A Note on Sunday Collections

We would like to thank all of our parishioners for their
continued generosity and support to all of our
parishes.

We have a small request, when writing out your
check for your Sunday collection: **please include
your envelope number on the memo line.** This
makes the process clearer and more efficient for our
Monday morning counters.

We thank you for your understanding and continued
support.

Prayer of Christian Unity

Help us to be one, Lord Jesus, as you prayed to
the Father. Gather us all to you, diverse in culture,
gift, call, way of life, and perspective.
May the love we have for you overflow
into the love we have for each other.

Amen ©LPi

The 2026 Daily Mass Record Book is open. Please
call the Parish Office at 315-252-7271 to schedule a
Mass Intention or Tabernacle Candle. When
requesting a candle and a Mass at the same time,
please write two separate checks as they are
deposited into two separate accounts.



The Catholic Community of Holy Family, Sacred Heart, St. Alphonsus and St. Ann invite you to our Wine Tasting Social on Friday, January 23rd, 2026, at Sacred Heart Parish Hall from 6:30pm-8:30pm. \$5.00 per person. Bring an appetizer and your favorite bottle of wine to share! We look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you for visiting our church this Christmas!

We hope you felt at home and that the message encouraged your heart. It was a joy to have you with us, and we look forward to seeing you again. If you have any questions or want to know more about our church, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. If you would like to register, contact Nancy in the Parish Office at 315-252-7271, email nancy.kavanagh@dor.org or stop in the parish office.

CASE Training Reminder for All Volunteers

In accordance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People promulgated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in 2002 and revised in 2018, volunteers within the Diocese of Rochester and its affiliated entities must complete Creating a Safe Environment (CASE) Training, acknowledge a Volunteer Code of Conduct, and complete a Background Check. Volunteers include but are not limited to Ushers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Choir Members (only if youth are in the choir). *As always I thank you for your continued ministry to our faith community.*

The 2025-2026 Catholic Ministry Appeal has begun. Please prayerfully consider donating to this years CMA and help us reach our goals. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Please make checks payable to:

12/22/25	Donors	Pledged	Goal	%
ANN	13	\$6540	\$10,000	65%
SH	102	\$25,863	\$47,000	55%
SA	75	\$15,560	\$37,000	42%

Catholic Ministries Appeal (not to your parish). They can be put in an envelope either in the collection basket or mailed to:

**Catholic Ministries Appeal,
PO Box 6841
Ithaca, NY 14851**



Reminder our next Parish Life meeting will be on Monday, January 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM. All are invited. We are looking for new ideas for fundraisers, social gatherings or any other ideas you may have for Parish Life.

The annual Festival of Trees is currently on display at the Ward W. O'Hara Agricultural & Country Living Museum on Owasco Rd. The event features over 180 decorated trees from local organizations and is a popular holiday tradition in the Finger Lakes region. This year our theme is "*Jesus is OUR Reason*" since we, on Parish Life, are committed to being "Servants of Jesus" through the Parish Life committee. We added some beautiful stained glass replica ornaments and a few more photo ornaments of our events from this past year. Please stop at the museum and visit all the stunning trees-however **tree #56** is the BEST!! Ha ha. While there, you can vote on your favorite tree, from now through 01/31/26. I believe the museum has extended hours through the Christmas Season. Last year we made 15th or 16th place (which wasn't bad for our first year and out of 200 trees!) Our committee has loved coming together to decorate our tree.

NEW CATALOGS!!! RADA Catalogs for Parish Life Fundraising are available in the vestibule of each of the Churches with instructions on the front for ordering online. If you have difficulty ordering or have any questions, please contact Karen Mahoney at 315-515-3151 or Missy Deyneka at 315-246-8945 for assistance. **\$5.00 Coupons** are now attached to the front of the RADA Catalogs for the Parish Life Fundraising that are available in the vestibule of each of our Churches!! Feel free to take advantage of this savings and know that you are helping our Fellowship events like the Picnic for free!! Thank you!



LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 4, 2026

Saturday, January 3, 2026

4:00pm-Sacred Heart

+*William Fulton* by Liz Secaur

+*Harry Flanigan* by Family

4:30pm-St. Alphonsus

+*Sister Lucy Walawender* by Family

Sunday, January 4, 2026

8:30am-Sacred Heart

+*Helen Oyer* by Family

9:00am-St. Ann

+*Ann Metzler* by Family

+*Gloria Geherin* by Family

10:30am-St. Alphonsus

+*Michael "Duke" Pagano* by Terri & David

11:00am-Sacred Heart

+*Tom Patterson* by Michelle Lawler

5:00pm-St. Alphonsus

+*Carli Bitterman* by Mom

+*Tom Patterson* by Linda Carr

Monday, January 5, 2026

8:30am-Sacred Heart

+*Phil Gauthier* by Dave & Ann Driscoll & Family

12:15pm-St. Alphonsus

+*Mel Brown* by Estate

Tuesday, January 6, 2026

8:30am-Sacred Heart

+*Jeanne Hogan* by Family

+*Linda Davidson* by Shirley Talamo

12:15pm-St. Alphonsus

+*Ruth Barry* by Estate

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

12:15pm-St. Alphonsus

+*John P. Pratt* by Mary Ann Pratt

+*Frank & Carmella Nesci* by Bill & Cathy Barlow

Thursday, January 8, 2026

5:15pm-St. Alphonsus

+*Mary Piccirillo* by Amy & Pat Rose

Friday, January 9, 2026

7:30am-St. Alphonsus

+*Sam & Yolanda DeRosa* by Family

8:30am-Sacred Heart

+*Carmello Ruscio* by Family

+*Rob Kiernan* by Family

Saturday, January 10, 2026

4:00pm(Sacred Heart

+*William Fulton* by Joanne Charles

+*Special Intention* by Darlene & Terry Lattimore

4:30 pm (St. Alphonsus

+*Joe Chindamo* by Joe & Susan Rusinko

Sunday, January 11, 2026

8:30 am (Sacred Heart

+*Linda May Davidson* by Chuck Healy

9:00am-St. Ann

+*Laurence Winum* by Carlton & Shirley West

10:30 am-St. Alphonsus

+*Ruth Schell* by Estate

11:00am-Sacred Heart

+*Joseph Chindamo* by Deacon John & Carole

5:00pm-St. Alphonsus

+*For the People of St. Alphonsus Parish*

**The Memorial Candles
Week of
January 4, 2026**

**Sacred Heart Church
Tabernacle Candle**
Anna Hemans
by
Ed & Joanne Nash

**St. Alphonsus Church
Tabernacle Candle**
The Fromel Family
by
Betty Fromel Festa

For Those Who Have Recently Died

Keith Ahart
Ormie King
Eternal rest grant
unto them,
O Lord;
and let perpetual
light shine upon them

Epiphany, the Feast of The Wise Men

January 4, 2026

During the season of Christmas, we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, Jesus' manifestation to the whole world after being revealed to the shepherds of Bethlehem. The Magi are the first Gentile witnesses of his message of universal salvation, so we celebrate the fulfillment of God's Advent promises with this feast. Epiphany, or Three Kings Day, is traditionally celebrated on the twelfth day after Christmas, January 6. Still, in the United States, it is celebrated on Sunday between January 2 and January 8.

The chalking of the doors is a centuries-old practice worldwide, though it appears to be somewhat less well-known in the United States. It is an easy tradition to adopt and a great practice whereby we dedicate our year to God from its very outset, asking His blessing on our homes and all who live, work, or visit them.

These letters are inscribed between the numbers of the year of the ceremony. The symbols are usually written on the upper horizontal piece of the door frame of the front entrance to a home, but if younger children participate, encourage them to place the symbols anywhere on the door frame they can comfortably reach. Traditionally, we remember the names of the Magi as Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar — although these names are not to be found in Scripture. The first letters of these three names — C, M, B — are inscribed on the door frame during the chalking blessing. Some suggest the C M B may also stand for "Christus Mansionem Benedicat," meaning "May Christ bless this dwelling."



Epiphany Word Search

(Horizontal + vertical word searches)



Words to find:

- JANUARY
- EPIPHANY
- CAMEL
- GOLD
- MYRRH
- FRANKINCENSE
- STAR
- WISEMEN
- BALTHASAR
- GASPAR
- MELCHIOR
- KING
- NIGHT
- MAGI
- BETHLEHEM



"Oh, Come Let us Adore Him"

Eucharistic Adoration is a Catholic practice of spending time in prayer and devotion before the Blessed Sacrament (the consecrated Eucharist) to worship God, who is present in the Eucharist. It's a way to deepen one's relationship with Jesus Christ and to receive spiritual strength and nourishment. Eucharistic Adoration is every Friday at St. Alphonsus Church beginning with the 7:30am morning Mass and concluding with Eucharistic Benediction at 8:00pm.

Adoration will begin again on Friday, January 9th with 7:30am Mass with Adoration to follow.

Saint Mary's Young Adult Group meets from 6:30-8:00pm on Tuesday nights for fellowship, spiritual reading, and reflection. We are currently reading through *This Is My Body* by Bishop Barron. Materials are provided. Please contact ashley.reilly@dor.org for the address of our meeting location and to be added to our email list.



KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

If you know of someone who needs a "Hug from God" the Prayer Shawl Ministry can help. It could be a parishioner, family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, or anyone

in need of a hug. If you know someone who is struggling with an emotional challenge, illness, a job loss, struggling in school or who has been bullied, or suffered the loss of a loved one, please call Nancy in the parish office for more information. "Shawls ... made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..." Written in 1998 by: Janet Severi Bristow Copyright ©2023.

Would you like to read the bulletin on-line: Sign up to have the bulletin sent to your email by going on <https://parishesonline.com/home> and selecting either zip code or Sacred Heart Church to bring you to our bulletin page. From there you can sign up to have the bulletin sent directly to your email every week. There is also a link to our Facebook page. (facebook.com/sacredheartauburn) and our Website(www.sacredheartauburn.org).

Vespers & Benediction take place every Sunday at St. Mary's Church at 4:00 pm. Vespers or Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours consists of a hymn, three psalms, a scripture reading, the Canticle of Mary, and Intercessions, all of which are celebrated in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar and concluding with Benediction. This is a wonderful way to pray with the church and continue to "keep holy the Lord's Day." "Pastors of souls should see to it that the chief hours, especially Vespers, are celebrated in common in church on Sundays and the more solemn feasts. And **the laity, too, are encouraged to pray the Divine Office.**" (Sacrosanctum Concilium, 100).

With the winter season upon us, we want to inform you if we have any snow cancellations for Mass and/or Faith Formation classes we will post them on facebook.com/sacredheartauburn and on these TV stations and their websites: WSTM-3, WTVH-5, WSYR-9, auburnpub.com and SPECTRUM News. Thank you!



GIVING STATEMENTS

2025 Annual Giving Statements will be mailed before January 31st. If you have not received a statement by the second week of February, please call Nancy at the parish office or if you have any questions regarding your statement, please contact the Regional Finance Office at 315-252-7111.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

We would like to thank
Baier Real Estate
315-406-2717
For Sponsoring an Ad
In Our Weekly Bulletin



Remember our Sick:

Kathryn Lane, Eleanor Hudo, Patricia Ricci, Josephine Silliman, Anthony Alberici, Carl Jr. & Cheryl Moore Festa, Tim Grazsko, Jamie Mazza, Pat, Jim Podolak, Mary Manuel, Olivia, Sue, Evelyn Gagliano, Kathleen, Bruce, Marilyn Castiglione, Allyza, John Salva, Stacy, Danielle, Lucy Pagano, Kevin & Maryanne Festa Leonard, Cortney Fedyshyn, Briana Dewitt, Joyce Blowers, John Clark, Cheryl Bellnier, Colleen Pinckney, Pat Gallagher, Gloria Cuddy, Tim Daly, Sue Daly, Carol Aldrich, Thomas Didio, Dave, Don & Joan Zeleznik, Mary Campbell, Mark Cole, Jonathan Arrowsmith, Lucas Mallory, Joe Schubach, Mary Warter, Gina DelPiano, Caleb Jones, Michael Fronzek, Carter Hergert, Joan Komaneky, Elizabeth Lane, Frances Lane, Siobhan Phillippe, Donna Romano, David Festa, and those listed in our Book of Petitions.

"We pray for all those who are sick, especially those on our parish prayer list, those in nursing homes, assisted living, the hospital or the homebound. May they receive comfort, healing, and strength from God's grace."

Please call Nancy at 315-252-7271 to have names added or removed. Thank you!



We pray for the men and women of our Armed Forces serving U.S. and abroad:

LCpl Brian Baxter USMC, Capt. Gregory Baxter USMC, Capt. DJ Benzing USAF, Lt. Col Joseph E. Brooks USAF, SSgt Tom Ellis Sr. USA, SSgt Angel Gonzalez USA, Col Eddie Gonzalez USMC, Pvt Zachary Gonzalez USMC, CWO4 Roger Graf USA, 1SGT Zachary Howell USA, SSgt James Johnson USMC, SFC Jason Mero USA, Pvt Justin Miller USA, E3 David Mirales US Navy, Lt Jg Richard Nelson IV, USN, E4 Adam H. Brooks, Airman Sarah Pasternak, USAF, Lt. Jack Hogan, USN, Airman Alex Gonnella, USAF., Major William Griffin USMC

"We pray for the protection and safety of all military personnel, including police, fire, and corrections serving both at home and abroad, especially those deployed in dangerous situations."